AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-6 and 9-10, cancel claims 7-8, and add claims 17-23 as follows. A complete list of all pending claims appears below.

1. [Twice amended] An attenuated *Salmonella* strain comprising a eukaryotic expression vector for the expression of a heterologous gene or heterologous gene fragment or an autologous gene or autologous gene fragment ~~comprised~~ carried by the vector within an open reading frame, wherein the gene or gene fragment encodes a polypeptide, a protein and/or an antigen capable of inducing an antibody response and a T-cell response, wherein the T-cell response is biased towards an inflammatory T-helper response, and wherein the attenuation is suitable for a vaccination of vertebrates.

2. [Amended] The *Salmonella* strain ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the strain is a *S. typhimurium* strain.

3. [Amended] The *Salmonella* strain ~~according to~~ of claim 2, wherein the strain is selected from the group consisting of *S. typhimurium* aroA SL 7207, *S. typhimurium* LT2, and *S. typhimurium* aroA544 (ATCC Accession No. 33275).

4. [Twice amended] The *Salmonella* strain ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the strain is a *S. typhi* strain.

5. [Twice amended] The *Salmonella* strain ~~according to~~ of claim 4, wherein the strain is *S. typhi* Ty21a.

6. [Twice amended] The *Salmonella* strain ~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the eukaryotic expression vector is derived from plasmid pCMVβ, wherein the plasmid comprises:

a) a structural gene of ß-galactosidase (ß-gal) under the control of a human cytomegalovirus (CMV) immediate early promoter,

b) a splice donor,

c) two splice acceptor sites between the promoter and the ß-galactosidase gene, and

d) a polyadenylation site of SV40.